

News Release

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Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command Public Affairs and Corporate Communications 4301 Pacific Highway, San Diego CA 92110-3127 Telephone: 619-524-3432 FAX: 619-524-3469

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SPAWAR ITC Group develops Web-based planning module

By Dale Brown and Eva Allen Segment Management Measure Group

In 1998, the Naval Reserve Information Systems Office Code N83, which is now Space and Naval Warfare Information Technology Center Code 441, was tasked by Naval Air Systems (NAVAIR) to develop a client/server system to support the requirements of the Metrology Calibration (METCAL) Program. Team Work Plan Automation Module (TWPAM) Next Generation (NexGen) was developed as a web application and is accessible via a web browser.

The project plan called for the project to be delivered in Segments. Segment I (the TBS or Task Breakdown Structure Buildup) of TWPAM NexGen was successfully deployed in December of 1999. Segment II (the static functions) was deployed in June of 2000 and Segment III (the project) was deployed in November 2000.

This past April, Phase II, the Approval Segment, was successfully deployed. Phase II allows the NAVAIR Program Team Managers (PTMs) to submit their fiscal year budget requirements to the Product Support Team Leader (PSTL) for approval.

The (NAVAIR) TWPAM NexGen requirements team, led by Ron Nasser (Program Manager) of NAVAIR Metrology Calibration (METCAL) visited New Orleans in May for onsite training. They also conducted operational tests on all of the delivered Segments.

TWPAM NexGen was used during the METCAL Program FY02 planning meeting in May. The meeting was hosted by the SPAWAR ITC 441 development team.

Following the FY02 Planning meeting, Mr. Richard Bazemore, Chief Engineer, NAVAIR METCAL Program said, "While data quality problems (a NAVAIR issue) prevented us from the fullest utilization of the TWPAM NexGen system as intended during our METCAL Program FY02 planning meeting, the system played a critical role in supporting decision making and dealt well with the complexities associated with our planning process. It is anticipated that completion of this system development will move the NAVAIR METCAL Program a major step forward in planning and budget execution. We are satisfied with the execution of your tasking on the TWPAM NexGen Project to date."

The TWPAM NexGen is based on the METCAL's Program Task Breakdown Structure (TBS) and enables users to project and track costs by task. TWPAM NexGen provides METCAL's management team with a software tool that enables correlation between program tasks, resources, projects, and funding documents. It includes automated screen displays that aid in developing and tracking labor and other cost elements for all tasks in the METCAL TBS and for multiple appropriation/funding accounts. It also provides explicit assigning and scheduling of resources to support the TBS.

It is anticipated that TWPAM NexGen will be fully completed and deployed by end of FY02. When it is fully deployed, it will replace TWPAM This Generation (ThisGen). TWPAM ThisGen is a set of Microsoft Office files that aids users in developing and tracking program budget information. TWPAM NexGen and TWPAM ThisGen will run parallel until TWPAM NexGen is fully deployed.

Phase III (Program Team Manager (PTM) Distribution) and Phase IV (PTM Reports) of the Approval Segment are scheduled to be completed by the end of FY01. The SPAWAR ITC 441 team led by Dale Brown, Project Manager, is currently developing Phase III.

Other SPAWAR ITC 441 team members are Fernando Ortiz, Nilsa Perez, Jocelyn Reyes, Danny Shill, Barbara LeClercq, Eva Allen, Linda Connolly, Will Adams, and Chun Jin.

The TWPAM NexGen project is one of four NAVAIR projects currently being worked in the ITC 441 division.

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For more information contact:

Maria LoVasco Tolleson, Public Affairs Officer, Information Technology Center, New Orleans, 504-697-5546